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West Virginia Library Association

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Charles D. Patterson

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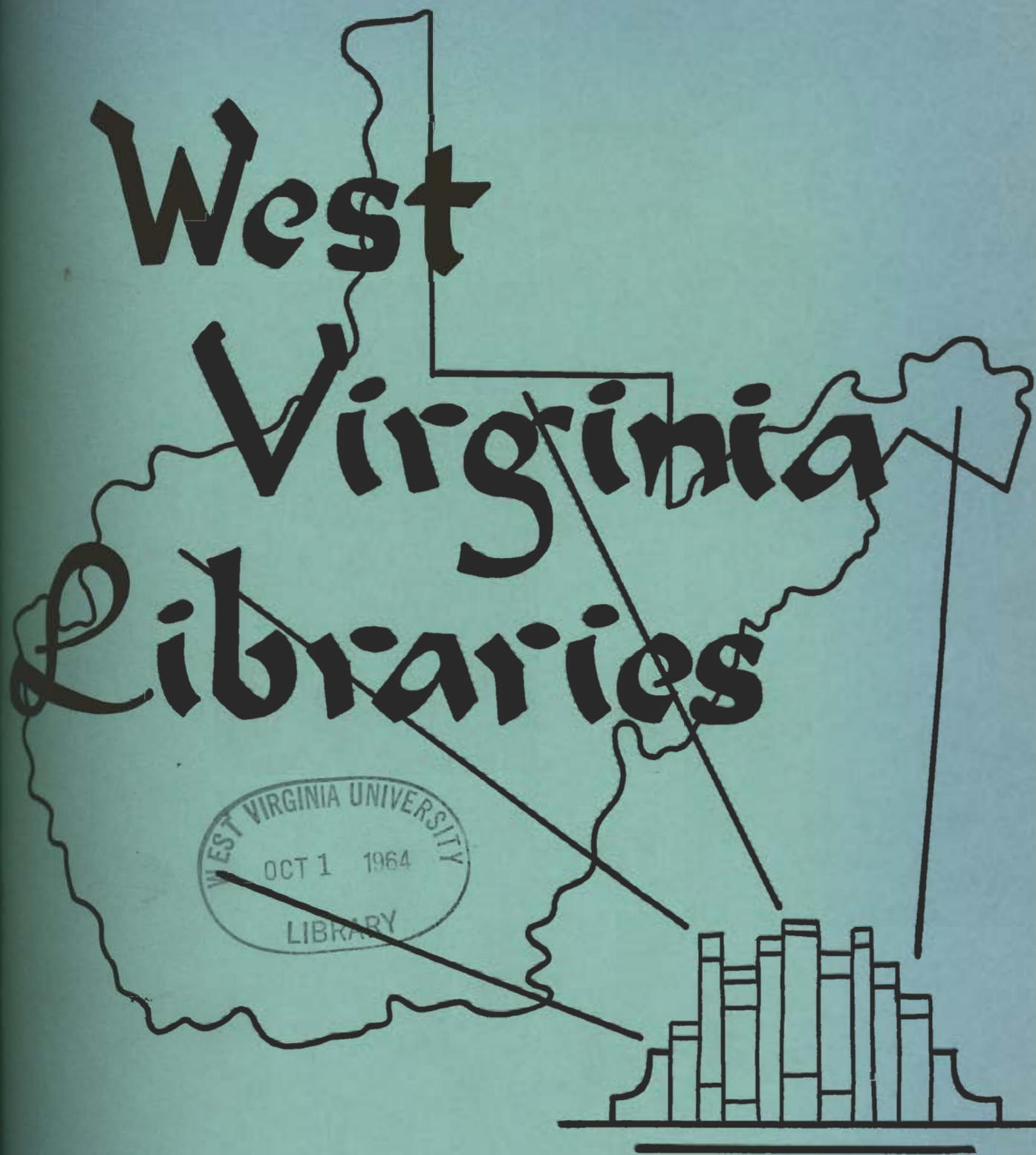


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WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

VOLUME 17 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE JUNE
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CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	1
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK	4
ON READING - Agnes Smith.	6
FLORENCE REESE RETIRES.	16
SOME LOCAL HISTORY PUBLISHED IN WEST VIR- GINIA IN 1963. Part II - Charles Shetler . .	17
WEST VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR LITERATURE: A REVIEW BY HAROLD LAMBERT.	21
DATES TO REMEMBER	24

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES is the official organ of the West Virginia Library Association. It is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Contributions and other communications should be addressed to the editor and should be received no later than the first day of the month in which an issue is to appear. Subscription is included with membership dues. Annual subscription to non-members is one dollar.

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ALA CONFERENCE AT ST. LOUIS

West Virginia librarians will join an estimated 3,500 other librarians from all over the United States when they convene for the 83rd annual conference of the American Library Association at St. Louis, Missouri, June 28-July 4.

The conference theme this year is "Libraries and Higher Education," and the keynote speaker at the opening general session will be the U. S. Commissioner of Education, Francis B. Keppel. Mr. Edwin Castagna, director, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland, is the incoming president of ALA, and he will address the general session on the topic "Libraries for an Affluent Society." Presentation of the annual ALA awards will take place at the banquet which will be held in the Gold Room of the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel.

Other outstanding speakers from educational, technological, scientific, industrial, and communications fields will speak at programs, meetings, and special events to be conducted throughout the week by the various divisions of ALA, representing different types of libraries such as school, public, state, college and university, and activity divisions.

A partial list of these activities is as follows:

--The Young Adult Services and the Adult Services Divisions will combine their efforts in an all-day session on Thursday, July 2, "Developing the Lifetime Reader Before, During, and After Col-

lege."

At a joint luncheon meeting of the two divisions, John Diekhoff, director, Center for the Study of Higher Education, University of Michigan, will talk on "The College Graduate as a Potential Lifetime Reader."

--The Public Library Association, in a joint meeting with the Committee on Intellectual Freedom, will present a program Monday, June 29, at 8:30 p.m. on "Intellectual Freedom vs. the Censors--The Public Library's Responsibility." Featured will be Emerson Greenaway, director, Free Library of Philadelphia, Pa. A panel discussion will follow.

In addition, on Tuesday, June 30, at 10:00 a.m., PLA will conduct a joint meeting with the American Association of State Libraries on "Implications of the Library Services and Construction Act for Public Library Development."

--The State Assembly Breakfast of the American Association of School Librarians on Tuesday, June 30, at 8:00 a.m. will feature as speakers Joan Anglund, author, and Margaret McElderry, editor of children's books, Harcourt, Brace and World, Inc., on the topic: "A Conversation with Joan Anglund."

--The Association of Hospital and Institution Libraries will feature a discussion Monday, June 20, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., on "The Role of the Hospital and Institution Library in Education and Research" and a preliminary report of the Bibliotherapy Institute.

--The Newbery-Caldecott Awards Dinner will feature speeches by the two award winners, Emily Neville for her book, It's Like

This, Cat, and Maurice Sendak for his illustrations in Where the Wild Things Are. The dinner, a highlight of the week, will take place on Tuesday, June 30, at 7:30 p.m.

1964 marks the fiftieth anniversary of our own West Virginia Library Association. Why not plan to observe this anniversary by attending the St. Louis conference. It will be a good time to hear excellent speakers, to meet and hire librarians, to examine new books and materials, and to have plenty of library talk.

Charles D. Patterson
Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by

Michael M. Reynolds, President
West Virginia Library Association

At this time, the 50th anniversary of the West Virginia Library Association, it might be well to take a backward look at what we have done and a forward look at the directions open to the library profession and to the Association in West Virginia.

The guiding principle of West Virginia Library Association from the beginning--has been and should always be--the development of a higher order of library service. This ideal is succinctly expressed in the opening words of the Association's Constitution, "The purpose of the West Virginia Library Association shall be to promote: A. Library service in West Virginia; B. Librarianship in West Virginia." Unfortunately, these are not goals attained--easily--when the 10,000th, 100,000th or the 1,000,000th volume is in the collection or when the new building is occupied. Instead these are goals which exist only in the mind and approximated only through a continuous analysis of the library's multifunctional responsibilities set against the background of the needs of an individual and of a society.

The West Virginia Library Association has been very fortunate in its membership. As one reads the records of meetings one is struck by the names of the members which keep reappearing. Certain testimony to their active commitment to their profession.

However, as one who has been part of many organization knows, a name on a program or on a report, in reality, represents the cumulation of the efforts of the many who were asked to cooperate. While a successful program, may involve a score of dedicated individuals directly, through their responsibilities at home are distributed among their equally dedicated fellow staff members and their presentation was the result of a committee's efforts.

While it may appear premature to discuss the West Virginia Library Association Annual Meeting, which is to be held in Clarksburg in October, it does represent the Association as a force for intellectual inspiration and as an organization which is only as good as its constituency. The theme, "Access To Information," will provide the main speakers, speakers at the section meetings, and panelists with an opportunity to describe the past and present so as to suggest ways we can be even more effective in the future in performing this important library function--probably our most important. The speakers and panelists already have been contacted and have agreed to participate. In addition, local arrangements have been in the process of discussion, planning, and doing for several months now. Yet nothing will be finished until the conference is adjourned on October 18, and this only in time to start work on another meeting, another legislative session, another budget request ... the totality of which will be to promote library service and librarianship in West Virginia.

ON READING*

by

Agnes Smith

Few subjects are broader or deeper than reading. An exhaustive treatment would fill at least one very large library. It might start with anthropology, anthropogenesis, anthropography, and certain subdivisions of archaeology; followed perhaps by the physiologists, the neurologists, ophthalmologists, psychologists, and on through all the theories of education and all the reports on the practice and effects of all the known systems of education. Then could come the specialists in language and languages, ancient and modern, with, of course studies of the speech habits of such primitive tribes as are still available for study. Phonetics would doubtless belong near languages. Finally we might--with luck--approach the written word. Or should we begin with a study of prehistoric cave-paintings, since these, or some of these, might be word symbols predating the hieroglyphic and cuneiform systems?

The only way I dare to cope with such an enormous wealth of material, in a short essay, is by focussing attention on a small area of it, through two lenses. One lens would have to be the

*This paper was read before a group of school librarians meeting at Glenville State College on March 20. Miss Smith won the 1960 Aurianne Award for A Edge of the Forest, a book on animal life which develops a humane attitude. Agnes Smith Parrish lives on Westwind Farm, Farmington, West Virginia, with her husband, Richard Parrish, a newspaper editor.

writer's own reading; the other could be an approximation of what the writer imagines the reader might like (or not like) to hear about reading. We must risk crossed eyes, optical illusions, or a possible cloudiness of the atmosphere.

When I confronted my typewriter and considered more exactly what to say about reading, it dawned on me that although I must have spent a large fraction of my life at it, I'd never paused to collect my own thoughts on my own reading. So what you're about to see may be only a belated attempt to bring a semblance of order out of what could have been the chaos of my literate past.

Here we go.

There are two kinds of reading; reading for information and reading for pleasure. Courtesy compels me to put reading for information at the head of this short list. I belong to the Reading for Pleasure Guild. However, reading for information can be pleasing too.

In fact, as in most generalizations, a clear line between reading for pleasure and reading for information is difficult for the individual to draw. In my own case history would come under reading for pleasure. I dote on the stuff the historians write and read as much of it as I can manage. But not in a scholarly way. I haven't the faintest notion what was the date Columbus crossed the Delaware--oh yes I have. That's the easy one. 1066. In my reading history fills somewhat the same place detective stories fill in other readers' schedules. On second thought, history would rank above whodonits because I re-read history. Herodotus and the rest of the Greeks, among others, I've read

three or four times and I hope I live long enough to read them again, three or four times. Since I'm not addicted to vicarious crime I can't be sure, but I doubt that these who are would want to go on killing their grandmothers, over and over again, in the same old way. I don't say the historians could win a race with Edgar Allan Poe, but the best Poe could hope for would be a photo-finish victory.

I'm fond of philosophy too. For this non-philosopher, reading philosophy is wonderful exercise for the brain in the same simple way a fast game of tennis is wonderful exercise for the body. Some is too much like calisthenics, for me--that kind must be philosopher's philosophy.

I might mention in passing that, in my opinion, the philosophers hold the same position in the Reading for Information Guild that the poets hold in the Reading for Pleasure Guild: The Top. However, being at the top has serious disadvantages as well as the obvious advantages. The poets and the philosophers can fly higher and fancier than rare birds on lower branches of the tree of knowledge, but if they fall flat on their faces they make a louder and funnier noise and look much more awkward than other kinds of writers in the same miserable predicament. The only kind thing a reader for pleasure can do under these circumstances is look the other way and think hard about something else.

In the middle of this century, even in the shortest consideration of reading for information, who could avoid mentioning science? I'd like to. In spite of the glamorizing and advertising--more and better space than Hollywood had in its palmyest days,

in spite of the billions of dollars spent to promote science and manufacture its toys, I, for one, am still inclined toward the irreducible minimum. And even the irreducible minimum of science, now, is a lot of science. Let me add quickly that I don't mean to be rude to scientists or seem unappreciative of the many kind things they've done for my health and comfort. If scientists are reading here (scientists are everywhere these days like Orwell's Big Brother) will they please be assured I realize that arid wastes in my landscape may be as rich as the Mississippi delta for science fanciers and that what is Amazonian jungle for me could have for scientists a beauty as simple and austere as the Parthenon, which my ignorance prevents me from enjoying. The point I'm after now is that persons who read for pleasure can find rare treasures in unexpected places as well as a lot of miscellaneous information, which might turn out to be useful someday, perhaps in this very essay. Who can tell?

There can be no doubt in anyone's mind, whatever the impression my little jokes about science have made, that as surely as we are living in history today-we are living in a history which is dominated by science. For example, the contents of magazines have changed. Rather tortuous poems fill in the page at the ends of articles on the peaceful uses of uranium or what's new in medical research or economics or sociology or politics, or mechanical brains. The one short piece of fiction will usually be found toward the rear of the magazine. I subscribe to several magazines, among which are Harpers and the Atlantic Monthly, both excellent, and about the time I wrote the first draft of this paper the lead

articles, featured on the covers were, on one, Man In Space, or something like that; and on the other, How To Choose Your Psychoanalyst. I'm fairly well adjusted to Man In Space--I feel as though he's been there for years, but it shocked me, and I thought I was past being shocked, to think of all those people desperate for guidance on how to choose their psychoanalysts. There must be a crowd of them. I doubt editors buy articles and feature them on the covers of their magazines unless there's a known demand for the information.

One more thing before we push on to reading for pleasure, I should mention that, although it seems unfair, readers for information will find slim pickings in the reading of pleasure baliwick. Historical and biographical novels, science fiction (a contradiction in terms if ever there was one) propaganda for any cause, in any disguise, may present to the inquiring reader for information a few facts, but these facts, as such, are out of context and hence not trustworthy as facts. Historical characters backgrounds and plots are fine raw material for use in the writing of fiction and drama; but after the pie is cooked, the history loses its identity as history and becomes simply one of the ingredients of the pie.

Reading for pleasure has to do with the intangibles, the imponderables; with beauty, rather than the uses of perspective or the function of design; with justice, rather than laws; with wisdom, rather than knowledge. And so on, and on ...

Here we see now, reading for pleasure. And not a minute too soon.

In spite of the seductive title, the going will be rougher

in this neck of the woods. Here there are no tidy areas already mapped by foregone conclusions. No well-constructed generalities are waiting to be reclined upon when we're tired. Yardsticks are not accurate here. Judgments can be only conditionally objective. Here we're in the realm of the subjective, the natural home of the individual.

Some persons put it this way; I don't know what art is but I know what I like. The Philistines say that, and on the face of it, not even the Philistines are entirely wrong when they unfurl their cliché and are as independent as hogs on ice.

But my purpose here is not to knock chips off readers' shoulders. Let's get away from art and find something less controversial, something simple French dressing.

Some people--kind, law-abiding, intelligent people - like French dressing with garlic. Other people--kind, law-abiding, intelligent people - like French dressing without garlic. Can we criticize or commend either of these groups for thier predictions? No.

Very little drama in this scene. Let's introduce another character and stir up something positive, something scientific.

Enter Mr. Z. He too is kind, law-abiding, and intelligent; but Mr. Z. likes French dressing both with garlic and without. Furthermore, there are times when Mr. Z prefers mayonnaise to either; and believe it or not, now and then all he puts on his salad is a little salt.

Is Mr. Z the hero of this melodrama? Well, a case could be made for Mr. Z, and was made during the Renaissance. During the Renaissance Mr. Z's name was The Universal Man, and as everyone is

well aware, Leonardo de Vinci was a handy guy to have around. But a case would be made against Mr. Z. Take Mr. X., the specialist in French dressing without garlic. It's quite possible that Mr. X compensated for the narrowness of his experience with French dressing by their depth.

That's all I can do with French dressing. Without a salad.

Where's the Philistines, who doesn't know what art is but knows what he likes? As French dressing may have demonstrated, the Philistine's pronouncement is a very near miss. It would be a perfectly legitimate approach to reading for pleasure, if we could believe the second part of the Philistine's statement. We'll grant he doesn't know what art is, but does he really know what he likes? I hesitate to accuse anyone of prevaricating, but I'm forced to doubt that a person who would make that statement could know what he likes. My guess is that the Philistine's tastes are guided by what well-known television personalities recommend of their programs, or by the selectors of titles for the Paperback of the Week Club, or by the preferences of whichever of the Jones the Philistine is trying to keep up with. Of course there's an endless list of these group arbiters of group tastes, some of which may serve a useful purpose, for children. One thing we can be sure of, they are not going to teach the Philistines what art is. Why? Because anyone who has taken the trouble to know what he likes cannot have escaped having learned in that process a good deal about what art is.

I'm trying to make as clear as crystal the truism: There's no royal road to learning and the truth of this truism applies as

strictly to reading for pleasure as to reading for information. And there's the added difficulty that in reading for pleasure you've got to do it all by yourself. No Doctor of Mental Medicine can give you tests and then prescribe what vitamin-books will perk up your appetite and make your cheeks rosy. The greatest Professor of literature who ever lived couldn't tell you what King Lear means to you, not even if he wrote ten books, each twice as long as Mr. Shakespear's play, in an all-out attempt to tell you. In fact he couldn't even tell you much about what Lear means to him if you weren't already familiar with the play.

I realize that this is awfully basic stuff to be presenting to librarians. I apologize.

I present it because I have serious fears that reading for pleasure may soon be a lost art. This is an altruistic as well as a selfish fear. The "group" is becoming so much more important than the "individual" in the structures of our society that the time, space, and solitude necessary for reading for pleasure are in danger of vanishing. Life is so much more crowded with people, things, and events now than during my childhood that I can't see when readers who are children today could have an opportunity to read for pleasure, unless they have assistance from parents and teachers as well as librarians. As for parents, my impression is that parents these days are like the Red Queen in Alice in Wonderland--they have to run as fast as they can to stay in the same place. Schools? Schools are so overcrowded, teachers are in such short supply, and there seem to be so many absolutely essential extra-curricular group activities the educators can hardly rush the children through the required amount of reading for informa-

tion.

Much more could be said about reading for pleasure, but I'm sure you understand what I mean by the term and the activity. I've done the best I can for reading for information. Maybe you should have someone from the Guild appear in your next issue, but for my purposes here, I believe that term too has been adequately defined.

So much for the body of my essay on reading. How shall I conclude for librarians?

The world is full of prophets of doom these days, some of them offering panceas with their portents. Even the happy-go-lucky are acquiring anxiety neuroses and are at least mildly petulant about something. Rachel Carson was worried about pesticides; so am I. Aldous Huxley, among others, was worried about the ability of the human race to keep calm while enduring so many contemporary slings and arrows of outrageous fortune; this faction ponders whether a judicious use of non-habit-forming drugs which produce relaxing hallucinations might help us; I don't think they will. The Republicans are worried about the Democrats and the Democrats are worried about the Republicans and we are all worried about the Communists; some prescribe Cold War, some prescribe Hot War; I think the emphasis is too much on the adjectives and not enough on the noun. As for nuclear fission, radio-active wastes, gratuitous insults to the Van Allen Belt--even the population is exploding, is the way they put it. Well, think of me as a very minor Cassandra, offering a very small pill, sugar-coated.

You won't be surprised to learn that persons who write books consider reading beneficial. Publishers recommend it too.

It is offered here as an assistance, one among many, in saving from extinction that dwindling species, the individual. I do firmly believe that reading for pleasure can be as exciting for children and adults as Little League Baseball and Gunsmoke. And what is reading, in the last analysis? Reading is a dialogue between two individuals--that is all it has ever been, that is all it can ever be, under any circumstances, past, present, or future.

A writer, sitting in his solitude, stewing in his own juices, is a human individual who has locked himself up in his own individuality for the sole purpose of speaking to other human individuals in the solitudes of their own individualities.

Now children are the most rugged of individuals. Parents, teachers, and children's librarians are the persons who are most vividly aware of this characteristic. You are the individuals who have the first chance to observe, understand, and conserve the individuality of children, and you know as well as I do that this conservation will not be at the expense of the "group" but for the enrichment of the "group."

So

Give children a chance to make friends of books, to enjoy the companionship of books. Give them a chance to live with themselves, not in an empty solitude but in the vital quiet of the unique individuality. Not only books speak in the solitude of individuality. That is the place where, in so many languages, for so many centuries, a still, small voice has been repeating, so patiently, "All men are brothers."

FLORENCE REESE RETIRES

Miss Florence K. Reese will retire at the close of the 1964 summer term at West Virginia University. Professor Reese joined the University Library staff as a cataloguer in 1935. A graduate of Waynesburg College, Miss Reese was awarded the Master of Arts degree at Columbia University in 1922 and the Bachelor of Science in Library Service degree in 1932. From 1918 to 1921 Miss Reese held teaching positions at Centerville High School, West Brownsville, Pennsylvania and at Smithfield, West Virginia. She has also been the educational representative for Popular Science Monthly and the American Education Press. For three years she was an assistant at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York. In 1949 she was promoted to assistant professor at West Virginia University and to associate professor in 1957. Since 1961 she has been full professor. From 1948 to 1962 she was chairman of the Department of Library Science at the University. Realizing the great need for qualified librarians in West Virginia, Professor Reese was instrumental in establishing the graduate program in library science at West Virginia University. She has served on many State Committees, including the curriculum study group for evaluation of the undergraduate program of library science in West Virginia. Throughout the years she has been active in the West Virginia Library Association. The influence of Miss Reese as a librarian and as an educator has had immeasurable effect upon librarianship in West Virginia. The many students who have been inspired and guided by her humanistic philosophy are joined by her colleagues and many friends in wishing her well and hope that she will enjoy a long and happy retirement.

SOME LOCAL HISTORY PUBLISHED IN 1963 IN WEST VIRGINIA

by

Charles Shetler
Curator, West Virginia Collection
West Virginia University Libraries

This is a continuation of the annotated bibliography that appears in the March, 1964 issue of West Virginia Libraries.

Ash, Henry L. THE GOVERNORSHIP OF WEST VIRGINIA. Salem: Salem College Political Science Department, 1963. 79p.

A study of the office of governor, and the governor's relationship to other branches of government, to the press, and public. With seventeen recommendations for changes in the constitution and laws to bring the office of governor into the twentieth century.

Carter, Randy. CANOEING WHITE WATER IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA AND NORTHEASTERN WEST VIRGINIA. 4th ed. Fairfax, Va.: Blue Ridge Voyageurs, 1963. illus. map. Price: \$3.50.

This "Complete Canoeist" is a delightful guide to the White Water ("Fast rapids churned white by dashing over the rocks and ledges of the river bed") of the mountain rivers of northern Virginia and northeastern West Virginia. Over sixty areas are described fully as to degree of difficulty, distance, scenery, time required to make the passage, and height of the water. Illustrations on how to paddle your own canoe, tie knots, dislodge a swamped canoe, and mount boats on cars for travel. If you don't like canoeing you might like to spend \$2.50 to join the White Water Canoeists and support their declaration that "There is just one hope

of repulsing the tyrannical ambition of civilization to conquer every niche on the whole earth. That hope is the organization of spirited people who will fight for the freedom of the wilderness."

Greene, Edward H., comp. GREEN'S WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL GUIDE, CONTAINING A TEXT ON THE LAW RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS TOGETHER WITH PERTINENT STATUTES, REGULATIONS AND ESSENTIAL FORMS. Cincinnati: W. H. Anderson Co. [c1963] 473p. Price \$10.00.

The author, former prosecuting attorney of Cabell County and attorney for its board of education, has brought together a code of the school laws of the state which should be useful to larger public libraries and all county educational systems. Includes chapters on schools in the constitution, textbooks, vocational education, teachers, retirement, attendance, finances, and board of education policies, rules and regulations.

Harris, Evelyn L. K., and Frank J. Krebs. ONE HUNDRED YEARS WITH WEST VIRGINIA LABOR. Charleston: West Virginia Centennial Commission [1963] 28p. Gratis.

This is a capsule history of the labor movement in West Virginia which began in Wheeling the year the state was established. Wheeling continued to be the center of labor's strength in the state until the 1930's. The story of the expansion of unionism through the organization of an Ohio Valley Trades and Labor Assembly in 1885 and later unions culminating in the organization of West Virginia Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in Wheeling in 1957, is taken in part from the authors: full-length study of the State Federation of Labor, FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, published in 1960.

Moore, Alvin Edward. HISTORY OF HARDY COUNTY OF THE BORDERLAND.
Parsons: McClain Printing Co., 1963. 303p. illus. Price: \$7.50.

This is the second history of Hardy County that has appeared since World War II. It was written in 1950 and first published serially in the Moorefield Examiner. Profits from the sale of the book have been donated by the author to the Hardy County Library.

Taylor, Mildred. HISTORY OF WAYNE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA. Wayne:
The Author, 1963. 20p. Price: \$2.00.

This skims the area from 1609 to the present in what amounts to a listing of first facts expanded to paragraph length.

West Virginia. Geological and Economic Survey. THE WEST VIRGINIA
GEOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY, ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OUTLOOK.
[Morgantown] 1963. 207p. illus., maps, tables. Price: \$2.00.

The Geological Survey was created in 1897 after thirty-three years of agitation by many West Virginia governors and members of the department of geology at the University. This book is valuable as a story of the creation of the survey and as a history of its accomplishments in mapping, research in coal, oil and gas, water, forestry, paleobotany, and archeology. Some of the survey's work is geared to popularizing the story of the state's geological history through the distribution of pamphlets, rock samples, and exhibits, and by means of lectures and educational workshops.

West Virginia. University. Bureau for Government Research. WEST
VIRGINIA STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT. Morgantown: 1963. 477p.
Price: \$4.75 (\$4.04 to teachers and libraries).

This is one of the basic books which should be in every library in the state. Compiled by six authorities in the field of West Virginia government, the manual is a comprehensive survey of the workings of West Virginia state and local government. It sets forth the functions and powers of the various governmental branches, boards, and agencies, examines problems, and makes clear the complicated story of how our government operates.

Winn, Sallie Kiger, ed. THE CIVIL WAR DIARY OF MRS. HENRIETTA FITZHUGH BARR (BARRE) 1862-1863, RAVENSWOOD, VIRGINIA (WEST VIRGINIA). Marietta: Marietta College, 1963. 32p.

A spirited diary of some depth kept by a daughter of the founder of Ravenswood. There were about 360 people in Ravenswood during the war years and the daughter's pro-Confederate sympathies and her disdain for "Yankee trash" were known by all. The Fitzhugh sisters took in sewing and lived on the hope of magnificent Southern victories which never came. An excellent account of daily life in the community.

WEST VIRGINIA CIVIL WAR LITERATURE

by

Charles W. Shetler
West Virginia University Library
Morgantown, 1963
Price: \$5.00. Hardbound \$7.00

A Review

by

Harold Lambert

West Virginia is a young state as states go, just coming into full estate with the recent 100th anniversary.

Consequently there has not been too much available and documented history. There are reasons for this, including the facts that our history nominally belongs to Mother Virginia up to 1863, that most of our population came in during the industrial development during and following World War I, and the slow development of culture as results of the first two factors.

History buffs and scholars have always been with us but the limited audiences and loneliness of those addicted because of a scarcity of camaraderie has kept our history to an austere minimum.

But there is good news these days. West Virginia history is becoming popular with the West Virginia masses. Newspapers are ever alert for feature stories and many of our best scholars are collecting and cataloging data. The generations of settlers who came during the present century produced scion which are not na-

tive and loyal West Virginians with an almost chauvinistic pride. Families which once talked nostalgically of the good old days in Georgia or Tennessee, before they came north to find paydirt in the coal mines, are now West Virginia families. South European families have blended into our population in our industrial towns and they are among our most accomplished and loyal citizenry. West Virginia is coming socially and culturally of age.

These facts make West Virginia Civil War Literature a veritable gold mine of clues for the serious and even casual historical scholar or student. West Virginia history found its Genesis with the Civil War and literally never existed before. This, then, is Book One.

The volume is produced by the West Virginia University Library and contains 184 terse pages of bibliography and index indicating most of the documented information we have on that burgeoning era. Charles Shetler, the compiler, has done a great literary and historical service with the volume.

With the foreword, Festus P. Summers of the Department of History, West Virginia University, brings out the fact that the elopement of Western Virginia to wed the Union and forsake the ancestral South was no accident--that it was a deliberate and political thing. Whether our sympathies are with North or South, the fact remains that the formation of the state was the only geographical result of that bloody war among brethren, and made West Virginia the hotbed of that conflict.

A total of 892 separate entries are indexed and briefly described as to content and importance within the covers of the book. In addition there is a complete index of both subject and title.

The paper is properly of good white stock and the printed word is easily read. There are three excellent full-page pictures including South Side, Charleston, The Battle of Carnifex Ferry, and a wartime scene in Fayette County.

Future history writers are going to find West Virginia Civil War Literature a mecca--perhaps the firmest of foundations for a general and acceptable West Virginia textbook which will fit in with modern textbooks in our public school curricula. There are several in the offing, we are told.

Whether you are interested in delving deeply into single subjects of the 1860's, or want to dabble in general and interesting little facts, this bibliography is worth purchasing for the permanent collections of West Virginiana.

We who have struggled blindly, library to library, clue to clue, to find written words for our history stories--all of us salute you, Charles Shetler. You have done the job proudly.

DATES TO REMEMBER

American Library Association Annual Conference.

June 28-July 4 - St. Louis, Missouri.

American Association of School Libraries at National Education Association Conference. Speaker: Doris Gates.

July 1 - Seattle, Washington.

Student Library Assistant Workshop.

August 2-8 - Department of Library Science, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia.

Tri-State Association of College and Research Libraries. (Meeting jointly with the College Section of Pennsylvania Library Association.

October 3 - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

West Virginia Library Association Annual Conference.

October 16-18 - Stonewall Jackson Hotel, Clarksburg, West Virginia.

Conference Theme: Access To Information.

October 14th marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the West Virginia Library Association.

American Library Association Membership Day.

October 28.

Student Library Assistant Workshop.

November 7-8 - Cedar Lakes, West Virginia.

Middle Atlantic Regional Library Conference.

October 18-22 (1967) - Atlantic City, New Jersey.

PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

Boger, Lorise C., The Southern Mountaineer in Literature; an annotated bibliography. Morgantown, West Virginia University Library. Illus. Available Spring 1964. Hardbound \$4.00.

Shetler, Charles, West Virginia Civil War Literature; an annotated bibliography. Morgantown, West Virginia University Library, 1963. 184p. Illus. Hardbound \$7.00; paper \$5.00.

Shetler, Charles and Reynolds, Michael M. Milestones of West Virginia History, some events of importance in the development of the Mountain State. Morgantown, West Virginia University Library. Maps, illus., 1963.

WVLA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Institutional	\$5.00
College, Public, Special, Trustees	\$3.00
School	\$1.50

WEIRTON GETS A BOOKMOBILE

The Weirton Daily Times for May 4, 1964 tells us that Hancock County has a new bookmobile. Congratulations to William C. Graham, President of the Hancock County Court; Mrs. Floyd Ginnes, President of the Hancock County Library Board; William C. Myers, Librarian at the Mary H. Weir Library; Mrs. H. Burdett Crow, President of the Trustees at the Weir Library and Mrs. John A. Jones, member of the West Virginia Library Commission, for their efforts in securing the bookmobile.